

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7055

BILL NUMBER: SB 273

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 28, 2006

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Child Support.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Sipes

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: ☒ **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
☒ **FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides that the Child Support Bureau may request certain information from cellular telephone companies concerning a parent who is delinquent in child support payments and cannot be found.

Effective Date: July 1, 2007.

Explanation of State Expenditures: This bill allows the Child Support Bureau (CSB) to request the mailing address and telephone number of a person from any cellular telephone company operating in Indiana if a person is delinquent in their child support payments as a result of intentional violation.

The CSB reports that it currently does not collect information from telephone companies. The number of cases, if any, in which the CSB would request information is not known. In addition, whether or not the CSB would do this manually or through use of a computer is unknown. Currently, the CSB matches persons delinquent in child support with identifying information (for example, financial institution data) through the Indiana Support Enforcement Tracking System (ISETS). ISETS is a federally mandated, online, automated, and integrated case management and case tracking software system.

The CSB should be able to adapt ISETS to incorporate the requirements of this bill. The additional cost to incorporate the aforementioned data into ISETS or the total work hours needed to adapt the data base are currently unknown. However, the CSB reports that the cost of interfacing with cellular companies would vary depending on the number of cellular telephone companies ISETS would have to interface with, the number of different file formats existing within those companies (for example, each company would have a maximum of one file format; it is possible that multiple companies would have the same file format reducing the overall

cost), and the complexity of the technology that each company has. Interfacing with a company that has technology that ISETS does not currently interact with would be more costly.

Background Information: The CSB reports that it is currently updating ISETS to interface with the State Department of Health (SDH). That change will cost approximately \$225,000. This includes project management, requirements, design, development, testing, implementation, and post-implementation activities. This cost represents expenditures to adapt ISETS to interface with one file format.

Explanation of State Revenues: *Child Support Collections:* As proposed, the bill could potentially increase child support collections for the state. However, actual increases, if any, are indeterminable. The number of cases in which a person would be found through information provided by a cellular telephone company and then begin payment on their child support is not known. The federal government is entitled to a percentage of the money collected. The percentage reimbursed changes annually. Federal reimbursement is currently approximately 66%.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Child Services.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Mary Sawyer, Department of Child Services; Wendy Yerkes, Department of Child Services.

Fiscal Analyst: Sarah Brooks, 317-232-9559.